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DANCE MUSIC IN THE BAR EVERY NIGHT

Marginal Column

By ERY LAQUEUR

ON Friday the Syrians had to elect a President and a Constituent Assembly. According to the new electoral law they were bound to vote and will be prosecuted if they abstain. The Syrians, to be sure, had little choice: there was one President and one Constituent Assembly, both universally disliked. Therefore both were chosen by a large majority. "Time" said about the Syrian election campaign: "When strongman Adib Shihabiyeh appeared in his bulletproof car in the city's Liberation Square, 100,000 happy Syrians roared his praise. . . he is a remarkable man, a dictator who is shy, honest and levelheaded." About as shy, honest and levelheaded as the men who wrote that story for his bulletproof car, according to its newswriter in this country, sells more copies in Israel than in all other Middle Eastern countries together.

LIONEL, only candidate for the Presidency on July 4, half an hour before the time limit on presenting candidates had expired. No other name had been submitted, and in view of the many cables received by him from all parts of the country, levelheaded Shihabiyeh regarded it as his patriotic duty. As for his Constituent duty, there is nothing essentially wrong with it, and though most Syrians have protested against it, their main anxiety is not of course its wording, but rather the fact that it was prepared by the honest Colonel whom everyone cordially dislikes. The Syrians may assume that their remarkable new President, now that he is elected, will not concern himself with his new Constitution. Two former small parties, the National Socialist and the Socialist Cooperation Party, both semi-Fascist, have declared their willingness to play ball with shy and honest Shihabiyeh and might become the official opposition after the election.

Women's Service Act Approved by Cabinet

The National Service Bill, providing compulsory civilian service for girls exempt from military service on religious grounds, was approved by the Cabinet at its weekly meeting in Jerusalem yesterday. The Bill will be tabled in the Knesset this week.

It provides for such women, aged 18 to 24, to be conscripted into National Service of 24 months, the length of military conscription. The service will be under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour and thus the women will be under civilian, and not military jurisdiction.

National Service will include work in orthodox agricultural settlements, the Army and defence projects, immigrant camps, medical and educational institutions, or any other public institution approved for that purpose by the Government.

The Manpower Department of the Ministry of Labour will have special inspectors, who will decide on the type of work and place of employment for each girl. An effort will be made to enable the girls to sleep at home.

The health standard will be the same as for military service. There will be special applications for complete exemption from National Service on family, educational or economic grounds or because of a particular orthodox way of life.

Girls exempted from military service before the National Service Law comes into force, will not be affected by the new Bill.

Income Tax Changes

The Cabinet yesterday also approved the second part of the Income Tax Law, which will be tabled in the Knesset next week.

The first part, providing an increase in the tax free income allowance from IL250 to IL400 and limiting the maximum taxation to 50% of total income, had been approved by the Cabinet earlier and is now before the Knesset.

The second part provides mainly for administrative changes, many of which, however, also have financial consequences:

1. The Income Tax Commissioner will have the right to order the keeping of books by certain categories of taxpayers, mainly dependent professionals, such as doctors and lawyers.
2. The interest rate for delay in payment will be raised from six to nine per cent.
3. Absence from the country will not be considered, as automatically justifying a delay in tax payments.
4. Assessment clerks, handling appeals against tax estimates, will be empowered to increase, as well as decrease, assessments.
5. The Minister of Finance will be authorized to collect from those who do not pay on the "pay-as-you-earn" basis, an advance payment of their income, up to 12% of their last year's income, instead of 10%.
6. The provisions of the Company Profits Tax Law will be included in the Income Tax Law.
7. The Minister of Finance will be authorized to exempt, in advance, a certain portion of the tax on the profits of companies. So far, this has been done only with the special approval of the Finance Committee of the Knesset, at the end of the fiscal year.

The Cabinet also approved an amendment to the Banknotes and Compulsory Loan Law, authorizing the Minister of Finance to exchange the old Anglo-Palestine banknotes held by those who can prove that they were reported after the authorized deadline and before last Friday.

IL100,000 Involved

A maximum of IL100,000 will be exchanged for each bona fide applicant. It is estimated that the total sum involved is less than IL100,000.

The report of the Experts' Committee on Foreign Currency should be published, the Cabinet decided. It will be ready for publication on Tuesday and will be referred to the Economic Ministers' Committee.

The report of the Secretary to the Government, Mr. Ze'ev Shafar, on the administration of Israel's Legations and other representations abroad was referred to the Ministerial Committee on Foreign Affairs. It is understood that those parts of the report which recommend staff reductions should, here to a large degree, be implemented. The recommendations for the complete reorganization of the economic and trade services of the Foreign Ministry are still under study.

President Visits Metulla At End of Galilee Tour

NAHARIYA, Sunday. — The President and Mrs. Ben-Zvi ended their tour of Galilee at noon today. They are to stay at the Dolphin House in Shafar Zion for several days of rest.

This morning the Presidential party visited Metulla and the Malhah water works in Upper Galilee.

Chinese Troops Reported Crossed Burma Border

RANGOON, Sunday (AP). — Intelligence sources here yesterday reported that Chinese Communist troops have entered Burma at five points. The Chinese Embassy here, however, in reply to a telephone call seeking comment on the report, stated that the Ambassador was "out of town."

The report said that Chinese Communist troops in platoon strength had entered Burma at Kaungmye, Hsienkung, Monghsing, Nankin and Yawehok in the northern part of Wa State bordering China's Yunnan Province. The nearest Burmese Army outpost is at Kuning, 30 miles away, the sources stated.

A Government spokesman tonight could not comment on the report, but said he was "aware of the past three or four weeks of infiltration of Communist Chinese forces into the northern Wa State of Burma."

First reports were "fragmentary," he said, and the "Government could not comment on the seriousness of the situation at this stage."

The Burmese Government is "closely watching developments," the spokesman added. He went on to say that the whole matter was "delicate."

The spokesman said he assumed that representations would be made through the usual diplomatic channels once the first reports were confirmed.

The Chinese are holding mass meetings in occupied villages, saying that they are there to "liberate" the villages from Chinese Nationalist guerrillas, adding that the Burmese Army cannot cope with the Chinese Nationalists, the sources added.

The camps at which the Chinese have hoisted the flag of the Chinese People's Republic are about 150 miles from the town and about 25 miles from the Burmese territory.

The Jordan Foreign Ministry is studying the Jerusalem move and is expected to issue a statement within two days, NEADS reports.

Ben Gurion to Take Two Months Leave

TEL AVIV, Sunday. — Mr. David Ben Gurion will begin a two-month leave within ten days, it was learned yesterday. The Prime Minister will spend most of his holiday in the north of the country. During his absence, Foreign Minister Moshe Shartans will be acting Prime Minister.

Mr. E. Shafar, Secretary to the Government, is to go on a two-week leave. It was announced yesterday, Dr. Jacob Pickler will act in his place.

Police Drop Cases Of Terrorist Detainees

TEL AVIV, Sunday. — Police have dropped their cases against the dozens of persons detained in the course of the probe into the activities of the terrorist organization, apart from those now standing trial by the Military Court. It was learned today.

The investigation is still in progress, however, as other persons are believed to be involved, particularly a man named "Bernard" who was often mentioned in confiscated literature.

Three more youths were detained in the past week, the most important of whom is Reuven Peretz, one-time Revisionist group leader in North Africa, who was apprehended in a kibbutz in the Neguev.

But it is not likely that these three will face the Military Court, police added.

Shmuel Halevi, 41, and Yosef Menkes, 30, are held at the Haifa prison on a three-month administrative detention order as their connections with the terrorist organization are difficult to prove.

Shafar-Oser Adar, chief Army Defence Counsel appointed by the State to act as legal adviser of the seven defendants in the trial who refused to be represented by their lawyers, today tried to interview his clients but met with no cooperation.

He issued a formal appeal to the public tonight, asking that anyone knowing anything that might help the defence to telephone him at Tel Aviv 1254.

Bond Leaders Here For Consultations

Mr. Henry Montor, Executive Vice-President of the Israel Independence Loan in the U.S., is expected in Jerusalem today for consultations with the Government.

Mr. Montor's party includes Mr. Julius V. Vessky, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Bond drive and Mr. Sidney Green, Financial Adviser.

Rhee's Adherence To Truce Said Only 'De Facto'

SEOUL, Sunday (Reuter). — Authoritative South Korean sources claimed today that Mr. Walter Robertson, President Eisenhower's special envoy now on his way home, had made two major concessions to President Syngman Rhee on the truce terms that have been with the Communists.

The reported concession on supervision of prisoners would mean asking the Communist negotiators to accept the P.W. Agreement signed at Panmunjom on June 8 under which there were to be five neutral nations on the commission — India, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland and Sweden. Rhee has repeatedly threatened armed opposition to the landing of Communist troops for P.W. supervision.

Before leaving Seoul, Mr. Robertson declined to comment on the P.W. Agreement, but said he was "not going to say anything until their joint statement was made public. But to Foreign Minister Pyun Yung-ta, Mr. Robertson expressed dissatisfaction over a story now in print and quoting Rhee that he refused to accept an armistice "in toto."

The U.S. envoy indicated he was not going to say anything until their joint statement was made public. But to Foreign Minister Pyun Yung-ta, Mr. Robertson expressed dissatisfaction over a story now in print and quoting Rhee that he refused to accept an armistice "in toto."

Rhee told news correspondents that he would not accept the armistice, but he had agreed not to obstruct it for a period of three months. President Eisenhower wanted us to accept an armistice "in toto," but this is as far as we can go.

American sources in Seoul indicated that Rhee's attitude was a limit on the post-armistice political conference, and accepted a "de facto" only.

All that has been announced officially is that Mr. Robertson and Rhee have "gone far" towards reaching a mutual understanding and have achieved "large areas of agreement" including the need for a mutual pact of non-aggression, and a pact of non-interference.

South Korean sources say that the American envoy agreed to ask the Communists to arrest all prisoners of war.

● To limit the political conference to 90 days.

● Withdrawal of all foreign ground troops — but that American naval and air forces could remain.

● To let South Korea participate in the political conference.

2 Policemen Killed In Lebanon Elections

PARIS, Sunday (Reuter). — Thirty soldiers were killed or wounded when a mine blew up beneath an express train on the Beirut-Haiphong line today, the France Press Agency reported from Haiphong, Indo-China.

The mine, activated by remote control, was placed on the track about 12 kms. east of Haiphong. Four carriages were wrecked in the explosion.

Remains were found on the track and of the train. This was the second time in three months that a train has been mined on the key Haiphong-Beirut railway.

Meanwhile, it is reported from Paris that Cambodia has replied to the French offer to start negotiations for independence for the three Indo-Chinese states.

Vietnamese and Laotian leaders have unofficially welcomed the French offer.

The French offer said that Cambodia Prime Minister Penh North indicated that Cambodia's reply was not a detailed series of demands but a "global" counter proposal in which, we place all our hopes.

Yesterday, King Norodom said he hoped that Cambodia's reply would not be difficult for France to accept.

He drove 160 kms. from Siem Reap to Battambang inspecting about 10,000 auxiliary troops who paraded in villages along the road, the France Press Agency reported today.

Hungary Eases Farmers' Burdens

VIENNA, Sunday (Reuter). — The Hungarian Presidential Council has passed a decree writing off the backlog of quota deliveries due from cooperative farms and individual farmers, Budapest Radio announced last night.

Former Hungarian Prime Minister Matyas Rakosi referred to this law in a speech to Communist Party "activists" yesterday.

The decree provides:

First, fines imposed up to the present for failure or delay in complying with deliveries from producers cooperative and individual farmers are completely and unconditionally written off with effect from today. Local councils will notify those affected.

Second, outstanding deliveries for the economic year 1952-53 are written off for all those producers (cooperatives and individual farmers) who have complied with their delivery duties for 1953-54 in wheat, rye, barley and oats. Outstanding deliveries in milk, eggs and poultry are similarly cancelled.

Third, delivery duties of cooperatives must be reduced at once by 10% in all items. This does not apply to those cooperative members who next year intend to work as individual farmers. They will have to repay the same on delivery.

These reductions make it possible for all farmers to comply with their present delivery duties in full, the announcement said. All previous regulations at variance with the present decree were cancelled.

U.S. Agreement to Big Four Parleys Relieved Assured

WASHINGTON, Sunday (Reuter). — An authoritative source predicted today that the Big Three Western Foreign Ministers would reach complete agreement tomorrow regarding proposals for a meeting of the U.S. President and the Prime Ministers of Britain, France and the Soviet Union.

In the first two sessions of the Western Foreign Ministers talks in Washington, Acting British Foreign Secretary Lord Salisbury and French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault have both urged such a meeting of the four heads of Government in view of the widespread demand among the peoples of Western Europe for an attempt to seek directly with the new Soviet Government a relaxation of world tension.

Moscow Raps West's Shelving of Bermuda

LONDON, Sunday (Reuter). — A Soviet foreign affairs commentator said today that the indefinite postponement of the Bermuda Conference by the Big Three leaders was a new indication of the failure of the American policy of "force." The same analysis was true of the Washington Foreign Ministers' Conference.

The speaker, Mr. Vladimir Kuriyavtsev, who often writes on foreign affairs in Moscow newspapers, said that it was clear that the time has passed when, by using threats, blackmail and a slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union, the U.S. could impose on its allies its policy of "world tension."

He stated that after the American "file" that Russia was a military threat to Europe was exposed, America began to say that Russia's "conciliatory and peace proposals" were a sign of weakness and tried to incite reactionary elements in Europe to exert pressure on the Soviet Union to cause "incidents" on her borders.

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'Pravda' Maintains Anti-Beria Tirade

MOSCOW, Sunday (UP). — The Communist Party paper "Pravda" today renewed its attacks on Lavrenty Beria and stressed the unity of the Soviet Union, nationalities which, it said, the Communist Party cherishes "as the apple of its eye."

In an editorial, it accused the former Minister for Internal Affairs of "undermining the unity and wrote of the 'monstrous schemes of this base provocateur and traitor' who tried to restore the capitalist order."

"Pravda" reiterated charges that Beria attempted to sow discord and discord among Soviet peoples and to stimulate "bourgeois-nationalist" elements in the Union Republics.

Local meetings of Party organizations throughout the country are "branding the anti-Party and anti-State activities of the sworn foe of Party and people," it said.

The editorial concluded: "Our Party will continue to cherish the unity of the Soviet Union and friendship of the USSR, to consolidate the Soviet, multinational State, for the strength and peace of the Soviet Union constitute a guarantee for the successful establishment of Communism in our land."

Molotov Says U.S. Food Offer To E. Germany Propaganda Move

MOSCOW, Sunday (UP). — Foreign Minister V. Molotov rejected today President Eisenhower's offer of \$15m. in food for East German workers and told the U.S. that Soviet Russia could take care of its own "friendly" nations.

Mr. Molotov, in a note delivered to American Charge d'Affaires in Moscow, said that the offer was "a move to create a propaganda effect in the U.S. and to undermine the friendship of the USSR, to consolidate the Soviet, multinational State, for the strength and peace of the Soviet Union constitute a guarantee for the successful establishment of Communism in our land."

Offer Still Stands, White House Affirms

WASHINGTON, Sunday (UP). — The White House said yesterday that the offer of \$15m. in food for East German workers was still standing, regardless of any Soviet rejection or any Soviet inference that food is not needed.

A brief statement issued by White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty indicated that the U.S. intended to exploit the present unrest in East Germany, although the statement did not say so.

State Department officials said that the rejection was based on the "falsified" reasons. They added that Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov's announcement that no food shortage existed in East Germany was "obviously fallacious" since demonstrations demanding food which had taken place in East Berlin during the last three weeks were witnessed by U.S. officials and Western newsmen.

Mr. Molotov's statement that the U.S. should have approached the East German Communist regime first, was "ridiculous, since the recent demonstrations in East Berlin and the Soviet Zone were put down by Russian armed forces," the officials felt.

They made it clear that the U.S. has never recognized anyone but the Soviet Union as the "legal authority" for the Eastern Zone, and they charged that the "so-called" East German Government was "constituted by decree without any expression of the people's will."

Procurement of the food offer had already begun.

Foreign Ministers May Meet First

WASHINGTON, Sunday (Reuter). — An authoritative source predicted today that the Big Three Western Foreign Ministers would reach complete agreement tomorrow regarding proposals for a meeting of the U.S. President and the Prime Ministers of Britain, France and the Soviet Union.

Question Left Open

The discussions to date seem to have left open the question whether it would still be necessary to have the "Bermuda" meeting, postponed earlier this month.

An official spokesman has said that the holding of the meeting would depend not only upon the recovery of Sir Winston Churchill but on what the three Western Governments decided would be the proper procedure to follow, preparatory to a meeting of the heads of Government of Britain, France and the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Last night, the three Foreign Ministers were able to hear views on the significance of the new struggle made by the Soviet Union. Mr. Bohlen flew in hurriedly from Paris and a few hours later was a dinner guest together with Lord Salisbury and Mr. Bidault at Mr. Dulles' home.

British Soldier Killed In Suez Canal Zone

CAIRO, Sunday (UP). — A British soldier was killed today when a British soldier, shot by an unidentified assailant last night at Ismailia in the Suez Canal Zone, died this morning.

He was the unit the soldier was walking with three friends and was wearing civilian clothes. Egyptian police fired at a figure running from the scene but failed to stop him.

U.S. — Soviet Chess Game Cancelled

NEW YORK, Sunday (AP). — The U.S. Chess Federation said today that it had protested to the International Federation against the cancellation of the Soviet-American match announced through a Moscow Radio broadcast.

A spokesman for the U.S. Federation said that Moscow Radio justified the cancellation in view of State Department restrictions against the movement of Russian players during their visit to the U.S.

The Exhibition Catalogue

The Catalogue will be the official guide to the Exhibition, and will include an alphabetical list of all exhibitors, a list of classified lists of all products and services, as well as a list of leading personnel.

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Cables in Brief

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lin" (Steel helmet), on Satur-
day, at an open air rally near
Hesse, demanded the release
of all German prisoners of
war and all German war crim-
inals.

ROME. — Italy's 15th Interna-
tional Fair of Fisheries opened
yesterday at Ancona. The U.S.,
France, Britain, Germany, Japan
and the Food & Agricultural Or-
ganization are participating.

MONGOLIA. — Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov attended

FRANCE. — France's familiar 10-franc coin is to be withdrawn from circulation on August 1 and a new 100-franc

announced in Paris yesterday.

Talal Said Seeking Return to Jordan

BEIRUT, Sunday (Reuters). — Prince Talal bin Abdul Aziz, the ex-King of Jordan, who abdicated in favour of his son King Hussein last year, is reported to have told his wife, Queen Zain, of his desire to return to Jordan.

Queen Zain visited her husband earlier this month in the United States.

hospital here where he is recovering from a car accident on the

According to the Egyptian Independent newspaper, SAHAWY Talal will press the matter with his son, King Hussein, when the Jordan Monarch returns to Amman next week from a visit to Saudi Arabia. Talal is expected to leave the hospital shortly, for a confinement at Hebron near Gaza, where he received treatment last year.

DETROIT, Sunday (AP).
The U.S. Air Force discloses

The modified 180-ton "Rabuster" is equipped with electronic equipment capable of breaking down any national radar defence, it was stated. The plane's function is primarily that of a bomber escort or protector. It parts the radar screen

and holds it open to let
bomber fleet through.

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July 12, 1933, in Kovetz Hataki
ordinances the following changes

ed on: chairs, tables, buffets, wall-beds, bookcases, writing

... wall, wallboards made of plywood, unplanned (without veneer), for beds and chairs (with strips of material) have been transferred from Lukovskaya, tablecloths, napkins and luxury Tax was levied: "Furniture" - 100 rubles.

Levied one-half cloth; substitutes:
swimming costumes of all materials (35%); dress suits (15%);
shoes, gloves, hats, handkerchiefs, socks, underwear and other basket-linen (flat, round and plaited); shoes more than 6 mm, shaving brushes under draining boards; kitchen height of which does not exceed 170 cm; cabinets made of plywood or masonite doors and meat safes; kitchen tables made of at least one drawer, the length of

boards made of white wood or pine or plywood, masonite or lath. We

men ladders;
toy abattoirs on children's beds;
toy cnc; play pens; prams; cradles;
are graded in accordance with the
in grading, the following list is
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-submit a statement of the type
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the purposes of the business.
-District office of the Luxury Tax D
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-give notice who have in their poss
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Monday, July 13, 1953

Av 1, 5713—Zar' Ka'ada 1, 5713.

THE statement by the Jewish Agency Executive last week regarding sensational allegations in an afternoon paper on irre-

PUBLIC RELATIONS

connected with a substantial gift of textiles re-

ceived from abroad for the benefit of new immigrants was not as satisfactory as one would have expected. While not denying that a transaction of the alleged nature has taken place, the statement implies that the official in question, whose name has still to be disclosed, committed no criminal offence in selling the goods to an unnamed merchant, and that he only "ex-

ceeded his authority." All the other allegations about value and price obtained, alleged threats of further disclosures on the one hand, and of pressure brought upon the official on the other, were described as untrue. The public was told further, however, that the resignation of the official was immediately accepted, apparently before the inquiry formally had been completed.

No discussion of the rights and wrongs of a case which obviously requires more investigation, is possible at present. But if the Jewish Agency thought a statement necessary, greater precision would have been indicated—the more so because this is not the first case where extravagant disclosures have been made, in the end, found to be wild exaggerations. However, even at this stage, the public interest demanded a clear answer to several questions. In the first place, though the action was not criminal, it would have been to some purpose to name the persons concerned, in this case those of the official and the merchant with whom he dealt. The compassionate argument that this would cause harm to the person or persons involved is understandable from a human point of view, but it does not hold good, if only for the reason that such reticence must result in a reflection on other members of the Agency staff.

Apart from this, it is regretted that the Agency should have preferred a general refutation when it could have stated the facts about the quantities concerned, their actual value, the customs authorities' estimate, and the price fetched by the sale, as well as the possibility of recovering any financial loss which may have been incurred in the transaction. Nor should it have been difficult to explain why these goods had to be sold at all, and what other goods or services were substituted in accordance with the intention of the donors.

Beyond this individual case, it will be asked how it was possible that an unauthorized action of an official involving, at the lowest estimate, over 11,000, and at other estimates much higher amounts, could be implemented without being checked and confirmed; or why, if tenders are the rule, nobody appears to have seen to it that this regulation was observed or how it was observed.

As things stand, the Jewish Agency is obviously faced with two possible ways of action. It can either demand unqualified withdrawal of the accusations and apology by the newspaper in question; or it must institute a libel action. There is reason to believe that we shall know, within the next few days, what course has been chosen. Meanwhile, the present case is an object lesson on unsatisfactory handling of public information services. It is to be hoped that the lesson will not be lost on those responsible for the administration of so important an organization as the Jewish Agency.

U.N. Employee Granted 'Humanitarian' Claim

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A Jerusalem employee of the U.N. has been granted 11,750 in lieu of compensation for injuries sustained in an ambush.

The man's lawyer told the Jerusalem Post that the injured employee had previously received compensation for invalidity. Permanent officials are insured by the U.N. Secretariat.

The Jerusalem employee, who was wounded in November 1950 near the Gaza strip, obtained his claim in the form of a donation on humanitarian grounds. An international committee recently was established by the U.N. to deal with such cases.

Advance on Mau Mau

Military Progress Only

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NAIROBI

THE sharp military offensive mounted by General Sir George Erskine, Commander-in-Chief, East Africa, has definitely put Mau Mau on the defensive. It is now only a question of how long the Mau Mau bands can hold out and how many will be killed off before all active resistance collapses.

Government policy at present leaves Mau Mau supporters with no alternative other than to fight it out. No offer has been made to them to give themselves up in exchange for reasonable prison sentences. Education rather than re-education of misguided Africans remains the firm policy of the Government.

There are five areas of operation; and each one presents different problems. The main area is in the Aberdare forests, on the fringes of the North-West Kikuyu Reserves and to the south of Mount Kenya. Here the Mau Mau bands have almost every advantage except that of firearms.

Forest Sanctuary

The dense forests, almost impenetrable even to game officers, offer a wonderful sanctuary. It is difficult to deny the bands food, and they have ample opportunity for manoeuvre. Most of the desperate and virtually outlawed tribesmen have concentrated in this area in numbers that are impossible to calculate. For them there is "no return" and they apparently plan to hide, raid, and, when necessary, fight on until they are wiped out.

Their attacks are concentrated almost entirely against African Home Guards, since they are most hated and most vulnerable. The object of these continuous raids is to obtain food and weapons and to impress the Kikuyu by the strength of their fierce attacks.

Many Home Guards, despite heavy losses, resulting from these attacks, are standing firm. Their improved organization is having its effect. The Mau Mau will be the major factor in breaking up the Mau Mau gangs. There is, however, no reason to suggest that the Mau Mau will collapse in this area.

The second area of operations is in the remainder of the Kikuyu Reserves and in the Embu Reserve. Though much weakened by the growing pressure by the Kikuyu themselves, Mau Mau activity is still concentrated in this area. Concentrated indoctrination and intimidation continues spasmodically from locality to locality.

Strength and weakness of Mau Mau changes almost from week to week depending on how great the pressure against them is in any particular area. There is still a tendency for the disheartened and disillusioned among the Kikuyu to insure with Mau Mau as well as with the forces of the Government.

The situation of the third area—that of White settlement around Nyeri and Nanyuki—is practically under control. With the establishment of farm guards, special police, and improved intelligence, conditions are largely unfavourable for Mau Mau operations.

Though not as good, the situation in the fourth area—that of White settlement in the Lower and Central Rift Valley—steadily improves. Already the Kikuyu farm labourers, who earlier left the farms in droves to return to their reserves, are beginning to return. They have been disillusioned by conditions in the reserves and by the broken promises of the Mau Mau. Probably they also sense that the tide of battle has now turned against Mau Mau. And they are afraid that the migrant in droves, who came from other tribes when they left their en-

vironments, might take their places in the Mau Mau.

But small bands are still proving troublesome in parts of the Rift Valley. They comprise mainly those men who did not return to the Reserve but retreated to the Rift forests, where they banded together.

The fifth area, Nairobi and its per-urban environs, presents an entirely different picture. Although there is no open Mau Mau activity here, Mau Mau has many adherents among the disillusioned, confused and unemployed distributed throughout the city under sordid conditions in overcrowded slums. Many of them have lost hope of ever being able to live decently.

Deprived of leaders in whom they have confidence, they compromise a cynical, malcontented element in the urban community. Crime flourishes and political agitation and bitterness is rampant. For this problem there is only one solution: better housing, improved living conditions and a social grant to convert these malcontents into citizens who feel they have a share in the advantages of a modern urban society.

But while the battle against Mau Mau is steadily being won there is so far little evidence to show that the large numbers of Mau Mau members of the minds of the Africans and for the willing cooperation of all races to work together as harmonious members of a multi-racial society—has even begun.

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Readers' Letters

SCOUT MOVEMENT

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, Before international recognition was granted two years ago to Israel Scouting, the Jewish Scout authorities pledged fair and equal privileges, as a right, to the Scout movement in a national Scout Federation, similar to those existing in other countries where minorities are religious or cultural divisions exist.

Naturally, all concerned expected this promise to be fulfilled at once, but weeks have passed into months and years and nothing has been done to implement the forming of a democratic Federation; though several things, such as printing a "Federation" letterhead, have been done to conceal this breach of pledge.

Further deceptive statements, official, semi-official, and press releases have been made to the time to time saying that Arab groups (apart from the few recent ones controlled in Government hands) have been admitted. But full investigation of the latest of these shows it is again not true. If anything, whatever has been done towards the formation of the Scout movement has been done in secret and unilateral dealings, and can never be accepted as valid.

These movements, especially the Israel Catholic Scouts whose official application for the promised treatment has been treated with contempt, though it is well organized under a regular Baden-Powell democratic constitution, are ready to accept any "security" checks, but not bureaucratic domination.

As a long-acting Zionist I constantly have exposed the baseness, propaganda, and tyranny of the Arab dictators; but to treat our Arab fellow-citizens like this would seem an excellent way to make them foreign instead of friends. It is increasingly damaging to Israel's reputation.

KEEPING POSTED

WE have been spending a few days in Galilee on the principle that if, like so many people, you only commute between Israel's two capitals you know nothing and hear nothing but complaints while everywhere else in the country things grow at a furious pace and people have no time to grieve in due course we got to Safad, and there we went to see the Gilestein Museum, which occupies

one of the handsomest Arab houses we have ever seen, which is flanked by palms and cypresses and stands in a pleasant garden on the town's imposing Fortress Hill. We had been reading about the terrorist trial at Safad just before we went to the Museum and went in reluctantly, and not feeling really receptive to sculpture.

IN the entrance hall of the house we met up with the artist's Moses, a more than life-size, thin, slightly hunched figure, hugging the tablets of the law with a passion and carrying his staff as though it were a bit of an encumbrance. "A very different conception to Michelangelo's Moses," we were told, "and much closer to the Jewish ideal of intellectual leadership." The most remarkable element, we thought, was the humility of this figure, whose fortitude was not shown in a heroic, obviously would not have had much use for the young people who stuns their feet at Safad, and we refused to accept the judgment of the court, and likely enough they have no use for him.

UPSTAIRS we came to the counterpane, a perfectly horrible little bronze Golem, with the strength drained away from the small squashed head

Oil in Muscat

American Gets Concession

By SHAHE GUEBENLIAN

CYPRUS

THE Sultan of Muscat, 43-year-old Said Bin Taimur, who has consistently refused to allow oil prospecting on his territory situated at the Eastern tip of Arabia, has just awarded a concession to an American.

Reports from Bahrain received here this week said that Mr. Wendell Phillips, the American archaeologist, discovered oil indications in the Sultanate on June 20. He then acquired a concession from the Sultan, with whom he is on friendly terms.

Reports added that the terms of the concession for exploitation were 60% to the Sultan and 40% to Phillips.

The Sultanate of Muscat is on treaty terms with Britain. It was on behalf of Muscat that Britain took police action at Bu-mali Oasis in April last, when Saudi Arabians infiltrated into one of the villages of the Oasis. But the Sultan has always refused to allow the British to prospect for oil.

The American concession now obtained from the Sultan of Muscat is a significant development in the feverish oil race in the Persian Gulf area. Reports state that Wendell Phillips has already sold his concession to American oilmen Frank Morgan and R. V. Witsell for \$25m.

Observers with many years' experience in Middle East oil exploitation think the Americans will lose no time in "opening up" this new oilfield only to balance recent British prospecting successes in Qatar, Trucial Coast and south of Kuwait.

MUSIC FOR ALL

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, I would like to express my appreciation of the recorded concerts, given every Thursday in the Gan Ha'em on Mt. Carmel. Special thanks are due to the Mayor for having built this beautiful park and given his full support to the musical undertaking. To Mr. Roll of the Municipality for making the necessary arrangements and to Mr. Shodenfeld, teacher of the Technion, whose technical skill in acoustics brings the music to life.

These concerts truly deserve the full support of all Haifa's citizens.

Yours etc., B. CHAPMAN

Mishmar Haemq, July 1.

ENLIVENING JERUSALEM

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, I believe that Jerusalem is badly in need of more forms of public entertainment, and I would suggest a variety show. In Tel Aviv and Haifa many such shows operate with great success.

I am convinced that there is sufficient local talent in the country, and perhaps even the city itself could produce the artists. I have had many years of experience abroad and would be prepared to devote time to a venture which would brighten the lives of local residents and attract those tourists who complain about Jerusalem's dreary night life.

M. BERNFELD

Jerusalem, July 3

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, Public opinion is alive to the negative attitude of tourists towards Jerusalem. Among the many reasons advanced is that the people are unaware of the beauties of the city and its many treasures of the past. Such tourists are not interested in archaeology, or historical sites. People want pleasant, pleasant faces. They want balance. And this we do not offer. The structures going up everywhere are hideous in their ruthlessness. Our landscape—as repeatedly pointed out by experts—is choked by weeds, and there are practically no gardens. If we do something about these shortcomings, we shall not have to proclaim so loudly our hidden charms.

B. NEYMAN

Jerusalem, July 7.

The American Scene

Mister Harry Truman

By ALASTAIR BUCHAN

WASHINGTON

WE have a lot of tourists in Washington in the summer, but last week a dusty old touring car drove into town with a rather unusual tourist behind the wheel.

The wheel was an American, back in Washington for his first visit since he departed officially in January for his home in Independence, Missouri. I caught only a glimpse of him but he seemed to be in very high spirits. The remarkable thing about an American President is that while he is in office, he is guarded night and day by police and private detectives—probably more elaborately guarded than most dictators, and when he leaves the office, in which he is more powerful than most dictators, he becomes merely another private citizen. Mr. Truman went for his usual morning walk and waved to the taxi drivers when they leaned out of their cabs and shouted "Nice to see you back." (Washington taxi-drivers seem to be mostly Democrats.) He had many meetings with the members of his old Cabinet who call themselves the "Out but Happy" Club. If all power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely, the effects are not visible on Mr. Truman, who, despite seven years as President of the United States, seems as humble and as happy as any other retired gentleman of 60.

The Cardboard Box

One of the minor industrial revolutions taking place at the moment in this country is in the art of packing. The cardboard or fibre-board box is now being used for delivering not only parcels and goods from shops but also crops and fruit and every kind of industrial component. With plentiful supplies of wood-pulp it is possible to make very strong forms of cardboard. This year, 70 per cent of the California lemon crop will be shipped eastwards in cardboard boxes, as will 40 per cent of the lettuce crop which hitherto has always gone in wooden crates packed with ice. Many firms are using cardboard for shipping because anyone can assemble or open a cardboard box, while it takes a carpenter to make a wooden one.

Toastmistress

With the American love of public speaking and get-togethers, it is inevitable that one day an organization should arise called "International Toastmistress Clubs Inc."

Yours etc., M. BUCHAN

Haifa, July 1.

Art Notes

Petah Tikva Artists

THE artists of Petah Tikva have been holding their second exhibition at the Haaretz Building under the auspices of the Petah Tikva Branch of the Israeli-American League. Although the professional painters Orland, Shor and the late Tibbi are represented, the exhibition is really a selection and supervised the hanging, the show is primarily an amateur one. It is a token of the interest in the arts which has developed in recent years in that town, which also runs a series of Israel Philharmonic subscription concerts and chamber music concerts (both sponsored by a group of music lovers and the Municipality, which also gave its blessing to this art show).

The three "professionals" are represented by characteristic semi-naturalistic works, among which the Tibbi oils, with their vivid handling, claim attention. With one exception, the other contributors keep close to natural appearances as they see them. The exception is Amnon Dore, who is self-taught and whose work is a mixture of Expressionism and Surrealism. He has a vivid imagination and a natural facility for expressing himself in paint. Once he has learned to control the medium, he should produce interesting work.

Rachel Cegla's oils show steady improvement. Her Zichron Ya'acov and Jaffa scenes, with accent on pattern, are well or-

ganized, pleasant in colour and assured in presentation. There are some pleasant water colour sketches by E. Hatzwell, and Shoshana Eliaz shows a lively and well drawn sketch of "Baths" which is, as often happens, a much better work than the more carefully worked out oil painting of the same subject for which it is the study.

Ruth Zarfat, a gifted sculptress, whose work is often seen in Tel Aviv exhibitions, is represented by a formalised "head of woman" and Hella Sarig shows, in addition to some very interesting ceramic tiles, a nicely modelled "Nude". The paintings of Luba Shalit, Sarah Alexander, Naomi Machlis, Bella Raab and Dr. Hanna are clearly the work of amateurs who find much pleasure in rendering in paint their impression of the world around them.

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NATURE NOTES

Last Blooms

AMONG the sparse summer flowers (blooming more profusely this year than usual), is the Black mullein (verbascum nigrum), spectacular rather by its height and straightness than the beauty of its flowers which cluster round the stem in yellow, crimson-centred stars. The plant sometimes reaches seven feet in height. Leaves and stalks are sturdy and hairy. It looks like a shrub rather than a perennial.

Not many people know that the mullein, which has five stems and a "regular" flower, is a primitive relative of that beautiful flower, the more highly developed twotipped and fourstemmed snapdragon. The mullein grows the most unromantic spots, such as railway embankments, waste land and the like, but it is found practically everywhere, and makes cheerful golden splashes on the brown hills.

This year the mauve hollyhocks, too, have started until the end of June, and the cerise and chrysanthemums are still going strong, a month later than usual.

Pickled Buds

Another bloom to be seen in June and July is a very delicate and graceful one, in contrast to the above: it recalls the white English dog-rose. This is the flower of the caper-bush (capparis spinosa), a four-petaled plant with very long purple stamens. The bush grows between rocks, or pendant in clefts of rock and wall. It is a close cousin of the chrysanthemum, and makes a bitter green berry the size of a large plum.

Yachts

In the unending, difficult game of Anglo-American relations, it is impossible to tell what incident in the one country will touch off a round of criticism in the other. The American television companies were taken aback when their handling of the Coronation films raised a storm of protest in Britain. Similarly, two small items of news published simultaneously have drawn a lot of acid comment in letters to the American Press. They were that President Eisenhower had laid up the Presidential yacht Williamburg as an economy measure, and that the new British Royal yacht, the Britannia, costing the equivalent of their million dollars, had been launched. Here is a sample letter to the magazine "Newsweek" from Lancaster, Pennsylvania: "U.S. taxpayers have contributed some three or four billions of dollars toward the support of the sagging British economy while the British continue their experiments in Socialism. Will they sometime return the favour by supplying us with free teeth, luxury yachts, etc?" It always seems to be small incidents which arouse the most fury.

Texas Drought

Texas may be a booming state for those with oil wells, but for the cattle ranchers who form the backbone of the community, it is a land of disaster at the moment. For the third successive year, the rainfall in Western Texas has been only a fraction of the normal. The whole sky is darkened with dust storms. Consequently the ranchers face the necessity this year's cattle at any price they can get in order to prevent them from dying, but also of destroying the bulls and heifers which constitute the foundation of their herds.

President Eisenhower and his able Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Ezra Benson, have allocated \$2m. of special funds to provide cattle feed in the worst areas, but, as one Texan remarked, surveying the dust-bowl of his land and the barren skies, "It isn't dollars we want, it's rain."

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